Message Text

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15

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SCCT-02 EB-11 L-03 /071 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/APU:JRDAVIS:SO APPROVED BY ARA/APU:FVORTIZ

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R 142214Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

UNCLAS STATE 051668

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, AR
SUBJECT- RANSOM AND RELEASE OF VICTOR SAMUELSON
THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOR THE USE OF
THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AT TODAY'S BRIEFING. NO QUESTIONS
WERE ASKED. BEGIN QUOTE

- Q: DOES THE U.S. GOVERNMENT APPROVE OF THE PAYMENT OF THIS RECORD RANSOM?
- A: EXXON IS AWARE OF U.S. POLICY IN THIS REGARD.
- Q: WHAT IS U.S. POLICY IN THIS REGARD?
- A: WE BELIEVE THAT RANSOMS SHOULD NOT BE PAID BECAUSE THEY LEAD TO A REPETITION IF NOT ACCELERATION OF SIMILAR DEMANDS.
- Q: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF HOSTAGE SAMUELSON?
- A: EXXON IS CARRYING OUT THE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE HOSTAGE SITUATION WITH THE EXPECTATION THAT HE WILL SOON BE RELEASED.
- $\mathbf{Q};\; \mathbf{HAS}\; \mathbf{EXXON}\; \mathbf{KEPT}\; \mathbf{THE}\; \mathbf{U.S.}\; \mathbf{GOVERNMENT}\; \mathbf{INFORMED}\; \mathbf{ON}\; \mathbf{THE}\; \mathbf{CASE}?\; \mathbf{UNCLASSIFIED}$

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A; WE ARE GENERALLY AWARE OF THE SITUATION SURROUNDING

THE SAMUELSON CASE. WE PREFER THAT EXXON COMMENT ON THAT SITUATION.

- Q: HAS EXXON KEPT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT INFORMED ON THE CASE?
- A: THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT AND EXXON CAN MORE APPROPRIATELY RESPOND THAN I CAN. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: KIDNAPPING, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL SITUATION

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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:

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Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: RANSOM AND RELEASE OF VICTOR SAMUELSON THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOR THE USE OF

TAGS: PINS, AR, EXXON, (SAMUELSON, VICTOR)

To: BUENOS AIRES

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005